



OLW Alumni Newsletter - Happy Thanksgiving November 2016

November 1 continued the very long tradition of 5th graders, dressed as saints, processing in for All Saints Days' Mass. For at least 20 years, 5th graders have chosen and researched a Saint and then dressed as that Saint on November 1st. They give presentations to each other and to the elementary students as well. Some saints are always chosen: St Mary the Virgin, St Elizabeth, St. Joan of Arc, St Joseph, St Gabriel the Archangel, St Francis of Assisi. This year, one of the newest Saints was represented twice – St Theresa of Calcutta. The two students' Saint reports are at the end of this newsletter.



Christian Service

As a Catholic school, service is part of the curriculum and many grades have a service project unique to them. Second graders work with their Buddies to create squares that are sewn into blankets for Project Linus, which provides security blankets to children facing cancer and cancer treatments. Kindergartners collect juice boxes when they celebrate 100 days of kindergarten and provide those to the OLW PADS site, which provides a bed and a meal to homeless in the area. Sixth and seventh graders just completed a service project to bring in canned goods and toiletries for Little Sisters of the Poor, which operates St. Joseph's Home in Palatine, a resident and nursing home for the needy elderly.



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Kindergartners Celebrate 50 Days

Kindergarten continued a long tradition of celebrating milestones. On November 2, they celebrated 50 days of school. For this celebration, the students dressed as if it was the 1950's - poodle skirts and slicked-back hair. They had lunch with their fifth grade buddies, who also dressed appropriately. The buddy pairs together talked about the difference between a student in the 1950's vs a student today.



Come Celebrate Thanksgiving Mass at OLW

We wish you all a very blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

We invite you to our Thanksgiving service and teen Mass over the holiday weekend.

A Thanksgiving Agape Mass will be held on Thanksgiving at 9:00 am followed by hospitality in the Father Mackin Center.

The teen ministered Mass is scheduled for November 27, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, at 11:30 am. Especially for college visitors and young alums back at OLW with family, this is a great time to meet up with old friends and see how the Youth Ministry program is thriving.

#GivingTuesday - Support OLW School

Black Friday. Cyber Monday.
#GIVINGTUESDAY
November 29, 2016

#GivingTuesday is two weeks from today. It is a five-year old philanthropic movement and a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and the widely recognized shopping events of Black Friday and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving.

As a Catholic school, our students participate in service actions year round. Already this month, our sixth and seventh graders donated canned goods and toiletries to Little Sisters of the Poor and all students and families will collect food and grocery store gifts cards to help needy families at Thanksgiving.

enriching minds. fostering faith. expanding talents.
This is the mission statement of our school – all decisions stem from it.

*In two weeks, November 29, we hope you will make a donation in the spirit of #GivingTuesday and in support of our mission. An email will be sent to you with details on how to give. Our **goal is \$7,000** for this one day appeal. We need support from school families, parishioners and alumni.*

All donations will be directed to the OLW School Annual Fund and will make an impact for the students and faculty of our 2015 Blue Ribbon School. The OLW School Annual Fund is an unrestricted fund that is used to maintain technology, update curriculum materials, provide professional development opportunities, and help maintain a safe and clean learning environment.

**Watch our school video to hear from students and teachers –
find it at olwschool.org**

Saint Reports

Researching and presenting about a Saint is a long fifth grade tradition, one that is an important part of a Catholic school education. If you remember your Saint project, send a reply email and let us know your memory.

Two of our current students chose Mother Teresa, now Saint Teresa of Calcutta, who was canonized in September.

From Miss Messina's Class:

I chose Saint Teresa of Calcutta because she is the most recent canonized saint. She...is considered one of the greatest humanitarians of the 20th century. While Saint Teresa exhibited many virtues, I chose my top three. The first two are compassion and service. She cared so much for those suffering; she dedicated her life to caring for the poorest of the poor.... She also exhibited commitment because she committed her life to Jesus and saw him in everyone she cared for.

Mother Teresa had a very busy religious life. When she was 12, she felt a calling to a religious life. When she was 18 she became a nun and ... one year later, she became a teacher at the Loreto School...Then she has a vision of Christ. He spoke to her and told her to leave teaching and to aid the poorest of the poor. Two years later she gets permission from the Pope to do so. She starts the Missionaries of Charity. That included opening homes for orphans and the dying, and opening hospitals for the sick. She worked with orphans, lepers, sick people and dying people. Because of all that, in 1979 she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. ... Then, in 1997, she died of heart, lung and kidney problems. She was 87 years old. At the time of her death, Missionaries of Charity numbered more than 4,000 (in addition to thousands of more lay volunteers), with 610 foundations in 123 countries around the world.

Saint Teresa of Calcutta was a small but mighty woman. She made a global impact on people. I will try to see God in everyone like she did and try to help them if I can. ...Saint Teresa said, "Let us always meet each other with a smile, for a smile is the beginning of love." I will try to be like her by smiling at everyone. That goes to show that if you put your mind to something and have God on your side, you can do anything.

From Mrs. Wurthmann's Class:

Hello, my name is Mother Teresa of Calcutta. I was born on August 10, 1910 in Skopje, Albania. In 1927 I left my home to teach at the Loreto Order in Calcutta, India. I once travelled through a war zone to rescue 37 kids from the front lines. And when I own the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979, I refused the traditional banquet. Instead I requested it would be given to help the poor. I chose St Teresa of Calcutta because she is an inspiration to everyone to help the poor in any way we can.

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